TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Selectmen present were: Michael Woodworth, Wes Moore, and Rosanne Gilbert. Others present included: Bill Meserve, Vern Glass, Ray Buxton, Cathy Nelson-Smith, Mark Bouzianis, and Jim Daley. Clay Mitchell did not attend the meeting.

Wes spoke about his discussion with Clay Mitchell about installing a wind turbine to help the town become "green". At the time the sewer plant was suggested as a site for the wind turbine. The town needs to have a full understanding of undertaking this project – the cost, the time to get a payback, etc. An anometer needs to be installed to see if the site is feasible.

Bill Meserve stated that the town should see if wind power is viable. Is there any interest from private developers for wind or solar power? Would developers work with the town in a partnership on a wind or solar power project? He said that the first step is to gather data and have studies done. At this time, a small wind turbine is being considered. The Planning Board is working on an ordinance for wind turbines and should have it ready for the 2009 ballot.

Bill also suggested that the Newfields Village Water and Sewer District have an energy audit completed.

Cathy Nelson-Smith, Ray Buxton, and Vern Glass will accept a 50 foot tower as a temporary structure at the plant. They feel a wind turbine is a great idea, but feel it is feasible to send the energy to the grid instead of using it at the sewer plant. As the town is already on the grid, there would not be a problem sending electricity to the grid. An energy audit would give the costs and payback time. It was noted that wind turbines are popping up all over the area.

Wes would like the town and the Water & Sewer Commission to work together on this project with a goal to have a zero energy bill in the future. There is a good chance of having enough wind because of the proximity of Newfields to the ocean.

Wes, Clay, and Ray will coordinate on this project. The anometer will be placed at the water and sewer plant first and then on a privately owned site if the landowner is agreeable.

The Selectmen shared information recently received about proposed wells located in Newmarket which would draw water from Newfields. The proposed wells are in the vicinity of the Hemlock Court area well. That well's production is already slowing down. Ray suggested that the Selectmen have the Water and Sewer engineer review the plan for any impact to the town from the proposed wells. The Selectmen agreed and Ray took the report. He will return the report and a letter from the engineer no later than November 1st.

The sidewalk plan was drawn up about 8 years ago and has been funded by developers and tax dollars. The Planning Board feels that some of these funds need to be expended in order to keep charging developers. He asked to draw funds from that expendable trust fund in order to have a study completed on the cost to place sidewalks in the elementary school area. Grants are available and Safe Routes To School dollars are also available. Clay and Bill will spearhead this issue and will get back to the Selectmen with more information.

Two residents expressed interest in serving on the Planning Board. There is a full time position and an alternate position available. An alternate only votes if a full time member is absent, but should attend all meetings to keep current with ongoing items. Each applicant would have to recuse himself in the event there is a conflict of interest.

Mark Bouzianis would prefer to be a voting member rather than an alternate. He would be able to attend most meetings and wants to serve the town. He has some knowledge of new technologies and has business experience.

Jim Daley served on the Planning Board earlier for 8 years and on the water commission for 10 to 12 years. He also worked on the last Master Plan. Jim grew up in Newfields and wants to give back to the community.

The Selectmen will discuss the merits of each candidate at their next meeting and make their decision. Mark and Jim will be notified of the decision next Wednesday.

Checks were signed.

Correspondence was reviewed from NH DOT – Fuel and asphalt cement price increases NH DES – 2 public hearing notices

The Town Moderator sent in a request to change the polling hours from 8:00am to 7:00pm to 7:00pm. A discussion on this was tabled until next week's meeting.

Correspondence from the NH DRA to the Trustee of the Trust Funds was reviewed and put on the open items list.

David Dennehy informed the Town Office that there is damage to the Town Landing from the last rainstorm. Brian Knipstein, the Road Agent will be notified.

Rosanne made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 15th, 2008 meeting. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

At 8:50pm Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer Administrative Assistant